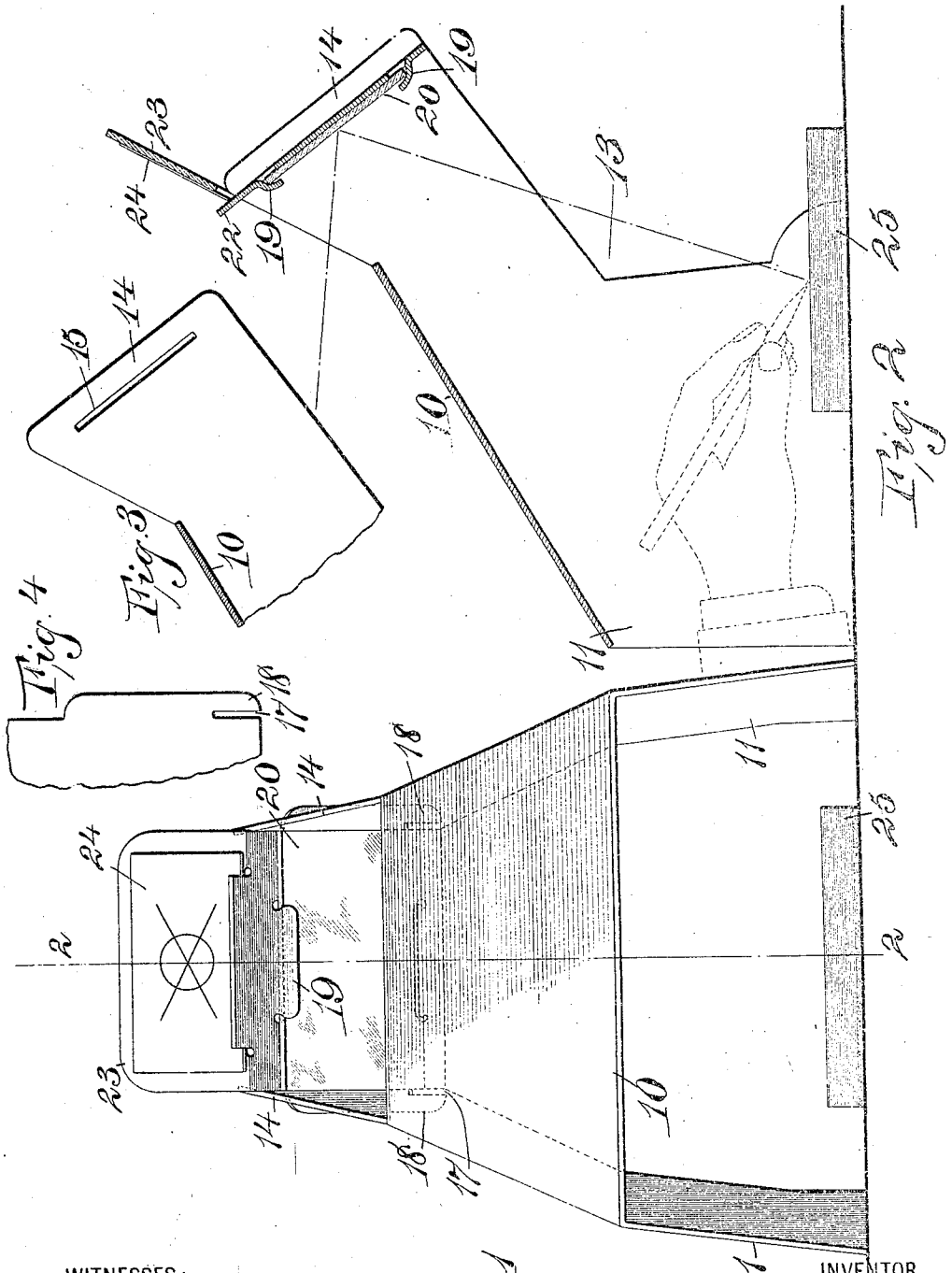
No. 863,407. PATENTED AUG. 13, 1907.

J. R. LANCASTER.

ILLUSION APPARATUS.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 1, 1906.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES:

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

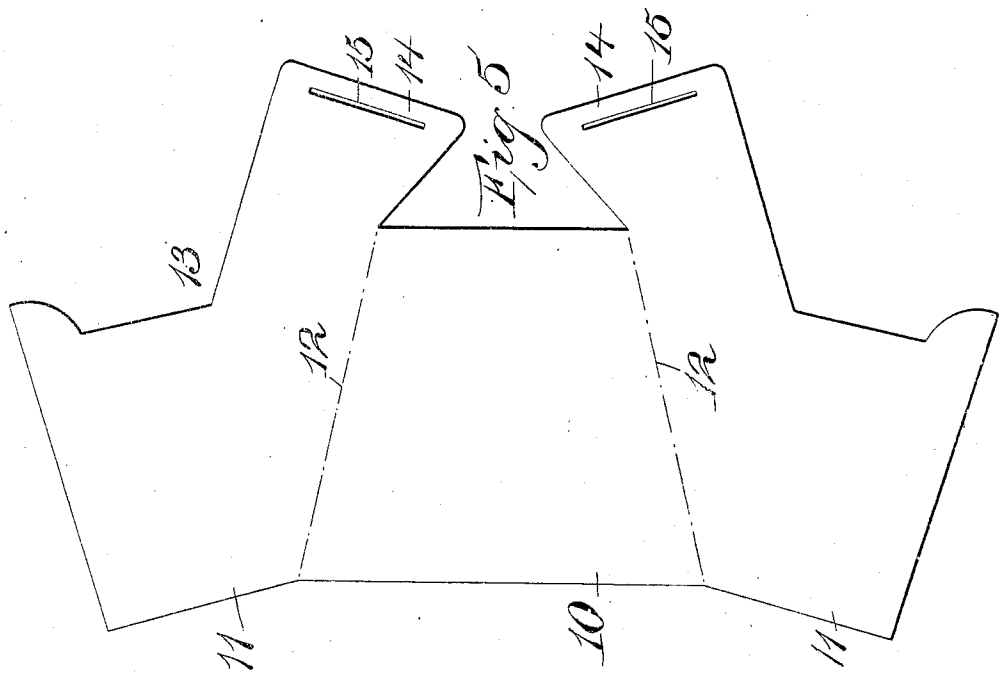


Fig. 5

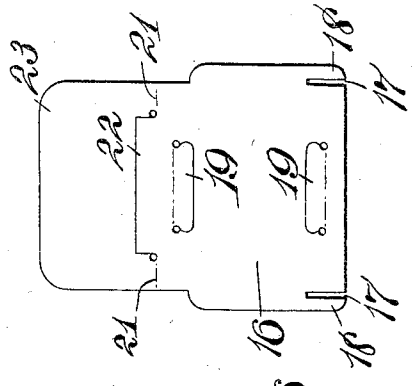


Fig. 6

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JOSEPH R. LANCASTER, OF EAST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY.

ILLUSION APPARATUS.

No. 863,407. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 13, 1907.

Application filed October 1, 1906. Serial No. 336,876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH R. LANCASTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at East Orange, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Illusion Apparatus; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This structure is designed to make up a device that will furnish amusement, and at the same time be interesting and will develop a better control of the muscles of the hand.

The invention is primarily designed to furnish a structure that will hold a mirror or a reflecting surface at an angle and considerably removed from a pad on which the drawing is to be made, and at the same time it conceals the hand and the pad from the view of the person drawing so that when the mirror is looked into, he gaze is widely divergent from the hand.

It is a well known fact that a person looking toward the hand, even though the hand can not be seen, can manipulate the hand to do certain things much easier and with better control than when the gaze is diverted in another direction, and this is utilized, in the present structure, to make the drawing more uncertain.

The invention is designed to provide a tablet to hold a copy, if one is necessary, which has upon it the design to be drawn by the operator, and this location of the tablet does not necessitate very much of a change of the line of vision glancing from the design to the mirror, or vice versa.

The structure is made up so that the cost of manufacture will be very small, and employs very few parts, these parts being adapted to fold together to form a compact device for transportation or storage.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is a front view of the device, and Fig. 2 is a section on line 2, 2, in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a section of one end of the body portion with the mirror removed, and Fig. 4 is a detail of one end of the leaf that supports the mirror. Figs. 5 and 6 are plans of blanks of the two parts that go to make up the invention.

The device consists of a body portion which comprises a shield or screen 10, which is made in one piece and mounted on the side walls 11, the body portion being scored at 12 to provide for the folding of the parts. The side walls 11 support the structure, and are cut away at 13 to provide for the admission of sufficient light underneath the screen 10. Projecting up beyond the screen 10 are the wings 14, one on either side and they are slotted as at 15. The shield or screen 10 does not extend up onto these wings 14, and thus leaves an open space transversely.

Situated between the wings 14 is the member 16 which is provided with the slots 17 forming the noses 18, and these noses are arranged to be slid into the slots 15 and then slide down over their lower edge, to lock the element 16 in place, and at the same time rigidly hold the wings 14, these parts being thus separable. The flaps 19 are cut out to oppose one another, as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 6, and a mirror 20 is slid under them, this mirror being long enough to just slide in between the wings 14, when the member 16 is in place, the mirror being thus held against any movement, and also preventing the wings 14 from collapsing. The member 16 is scored at 21, and has the flap 22 cut out so that when the tablet 23 is swung back on the scored lines 21, as in Fig. 2, the flap 22 forms a support for the bottom of a sheet 24, when such a sheet is utilized, this sheet being adapted to have upon it a design to be drawn on a suitable pad 25, underneath the body portion of the apparatus.

Fig. 5 shows the blank of the body portion flattened out, and when it is packed, the two side pieces 11 fold over on the part 10, and the member 16, when flat as in Fig. 6, can be laid, with its mirror, on the body portion, and a compact arrangement is thus formed for packing. When the apparatus is used, the pad 25 is put into place and the operator uses a pencil or similar writing implement on the pad, but the pad and the hand are entirely concealed from view, and the location of the mirror, which reverses the figures on the pad, makes the operator look in a direction away from the hand, which makes the movement of the hand all the more uncertain. When a particular design, on the sheet 24 is to be copied, the operator need only glance from the sheet to the mirror, which is a very short distance, and the operator can see what he is attempting to do, as it is impossible to gaze on the hand or the pencil, and it is extremely hard, in this apparatus, to make a predetermined design on account of the motions in all directions being reversed on the pad from what is in view to the operator in the mirror.

The holding means for the mirror is also very compact and simple, and embodies a support for the sheet, and is secure by reason of the tablet 23 resting back on the top edge of the wings 14, as in Fig. 2.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:—

1. An illusion apparatus comprising a body portion forming a screen and having projecting side pieces, and a mirror suspended between the side pieces and being tilted out of a vertical position.

2. An illusion apparatus comprising a body portion forming a screen, a mirror suspended above and beyond the screen and tilted out of a vertical position, and a copy holder above the mirror.

3. An illusion apparatus comprising a screen formed of a top and supporting side pieces, the side pieces having projections extending therefrom, a mirror suspended in a tilted position between the side pieces, and a copy holder above the mirror.

4. An illusion apparatus having a body portion consisting of side pieces, a screen across the top, and wings on the side pieces, the wings being provided with slots, a second member having noses to pass through the slots of the wings and hook over the edges of the slots, the second member having flaps to embrace a mirror at the top and bottom, a tablet integral with the second member and arranged at an angle, thereto, to support a sheet, and a flap in extension with the body portion of the second member to support the bottom of the sheet.

5. An illusion apparatus comprising a body portion consisting of a screen integral with two depending side pieces, the side pieces having projecting wings, the projecting wings being provided with slots, a second member having a pair of slots forming noses on its opposed ends, the noses being arranged to enter the slots on the wings and hook over the edges of the slots, a mirror having its end bearing on the wings, flaps in the second member to grasp the mirror on the top and bottom, and a tablet integral with the body portion of the second member arranged to support a sheet, the body portion of the second member having a projecting flap to support the sheet on the bottom, and a pad underneath the body portion.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing, I have hereunto set my hand this 27th day of September, 1906.

JOSEPH R. LANCASTER.

Witnesses:

E. A. PELL,

WM. H. CAMFIELD.